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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/727,111	11/29/2000	James Molenda	CISCO-2916	6816

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EXAMINER

HAROLD, JEFFEREY F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2614

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/24/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/727,111

Applicant(s)

MOLEND A ET AL.

Examiner

Jefferey F. Harold

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 November 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-66 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 47-56 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 15, 16, 25-28, 31-40, 43-46, 57 and 58 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6-14, 17-24, 29, 30, 41, 42 and 59-66 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. ***Claims 1-5, 15, 16, 25-28, 31-40, 43-46, 57 and 58*** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takato et al. (United States Patent 4,827,505).

Regarding **claim 1**, Takato discloses a subscriber line interface circuit. In addition, Takato discloses an electronic circuit for receiving a differential mode signal on a first pair of conductors and transmitting a signal on a second pair of conductors, the circuit comprising: a first steering circuit responsive to the differential mode signal on the first pair of conductors for generating a first electrical signal on one of the second pair of conductors; and a second steering circuit responsive to the differential mode signal on the first pair of conductors for generating a second electrical signal on the other of the second pair of conductors, the first and second electrical signal together constituting a loop back of the differential mode signal, as disclosed at column 4, line 21 through column 9, line 55 and exhibited in figures 3-8.

Regarding **claim 2**, Takato discloses a first steering circuit responsive to the differential mode signal on the first pair of conductors for generating a signal on one of the second pair of conductors; a second steering circuit responsive to the differential

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mode signal on the first pair of conductors for generating a signal on the other of the second pair of conductors; and circuitry responsive to application of a DC voltage level disabling the first steering circuit, as disclosed at column 4, line 21 through column 9, line 55 and exhibited in figures 3-8.

Regarding **claim 5**, Takato discloses an electronic circuit for receiving a differential mode signal on a first pair of conductors and transmitting a signal on a second pair of conductors, the circuit comprising: a first steering circuit responsive to the differential mode signal on the first pair of conductors for generating a signal on one of the second pair of conductors; and a second steering circuit responsive to the differential mode signal on the first pair of conductors for generating a signal on the other of the second pair of conductors, wherein said first steering circuit comprises: an NPN bipolar transistor and a PNP bipolar transistor having their respective emitters and collectors mutually coupled, as disclosed at column 4, line 21 through column 9, line 55 and exhibited in figures 3-8.

Regarding **claims 3, 4, 15, 16, 25-28, 31-40, 43-46, 57 and 58** are interpreted and rejected for the reason set forth above.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. ***Claims 47-56*** are allowed.
3. ***Claims 6-14, 17-24, 29, 30, 41, 42, and 59-66*** are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jefferey F. Harold whose telephone number is 571-272-7519. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9 am - 5:30 pm.

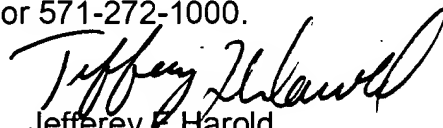
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on 571-272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



JFH
January 19, 2007



Jefferey F. Harold
Primary Examiner
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